

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously presented) An apparatus for use in an assay in which a sample is presented to an instrument, comprising a first inlet, a second inlet and an inlet port, said inlet port being movable relative to each of said first and second inlets such that the inlet port can be brought into liquid communication with each inlet in turn as required, said inlet port accommodating a filter means or a binder retaining means characterized in that said inlet port is brought into liquid communication with each inlet in turn along a linear path.
2. (Original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 1 which is a cartridge.
3. (Previously presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 1 comprising a first component including the at least first and second inlets which include optical chambers; a second component or components comprising a sample receiving chamber and at least one other chamber, said at least one other chamber containing an eluting medium; and a third component comprising said inlet port.
4. (Original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 3 wherein said third component is slidably disposed below the sample receiving chamber in said second component and above the optical chambers in the first component.
5. (Previously presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 3 in which the third component seals the sample receiving chamber of the second component so that liquids stored or pre-loaded into the chamber are only released when the inlet ports formed therein are aligned with the optical chambers in the first component.
6. (Original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 5 further comprising additional sealing means.
7. (Previously presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 3 in which the third component is provided with a handle or other means by which it can be moved.
8. (Previously presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 3 in which

the second component comprises a resilient component and a cover.

9. (Original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 8, in which the resilient component comprises a plug closure.

10. (Previously presented) An apparatus as claimed claim 3 in which the second component comprises a channel within which the third component slides.

11. (Previously presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 1 further comprising locator lugs to ensure correct orientation in a measuring instrument.

12. (Previously presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 3 comprising a plurality of fins projecting from the first component.

13. (Previously presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 3, in which the optical chambers are curved.

14. (Previously presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 3, comprising air relief tubes.

15. (Previously presented) An apparatus as claimed claim 3, wherein the first component is made of a clear material.

16. (Previously presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 3 in which the second component comprises two parts, a resilient component and a cover.

17. (Previously presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein the resilient component comprises an elongate channel into which the third component is slidably mounted.

18. (Original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 14 wherein each air relief tube co-operates with an aperture in the slide such that when the inlet port is correctly aligned with each chamber the aperture is aligned with the associated air relief tube thereby causing an air lock to break thus causing release of the chamber contents through the filter into the Inlet there below.

19. (Previously presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein the first component comprises windows which are inset from the main apparatus

surface.

20. (Previously presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein the second component is "I" shaped in cross section.

21. (Previously presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein the apparatus has a toothed surface which teeth provide a means by which the apparatus can be caused to move along a track of a reading instrument.

22-24. (Cancelled)